

DECISION MEMORANDUM

TO: COMMISSIONER KJELLANDER
COMMISSIONER RAPER
COMMISSIONER ANDERSON
COMMISSION SECRETARY
COMMISSION STAFF
LEGAL

FROM: MATT HUNTER
DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL

DATE: JANUARY 28, 2021

SUBJECT: IN THE MATTER OF STARLINK SERVICES, LLC'S APPLICATION FOR DESIGNATION AS AN ELIGIBLE TELECOMMUNICATIONS CARRIER FOR PURPOSES OF RECEIVING RURAL DIGITAL OPPORTUNITIES FUND SUPPORT; CASE NO. SSL-T-21-01.

On January 4, 2021, Starlink Services, LLC ("Starlink") applied for designation as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier ("ETC") in Idaho.

THE APPLICATION

Starlink is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Space Exploration Technologies Corp. ("SpaceX"). Application at 1. SpaceX was a winning bidder at the Rural Digital Opportunity Fund ("RDOF") auction to provide satellite broadband and standalone voice services in 35 states, including Idaho. *Id.* at 5. Starlink states SpaceX assigned its winning bids to Starlink. *Id.* Starlink explains that "receipt of RDOF support is contingent on Starlink Services receiving an ETC designation from the Idaho Public Utilities Commission by June 7, 2021." *Id.* at 1, Exhibit 2. As part of its Application, Starlink includes a list of all of the census blocks in Idaho where it is requesting to be designated an ETC. Application, Exhibit 1. Starlink asserts it meets all federal and state requirements for designation as an ETC, and argues that designating Starlink as an ETC is in the public interest. Application at 8-18.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends the Commission issue a Notice of Application and Notice of Modified Procedure, setting a March 11, 2021 comment deadline and a March 25, 2021 reply comment deadline.

COMMISSION DECISION

Does the Commission wish to issue a Notice of Application and Notice of Modified Procedure, setting a March 11, 2021 comment deadline and a March 25, 2021 reply comment deadline?



Matt Hunter
Deputy Attorney General

I:\Legal\TELEPHONE\SSL-T-21-01\SLT2101_dec memo_mh.docx